



Department of Justice

United States Attorney Leura G. Canary
Middle District of Alabama

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www.usdoj.gov/usao/alm

CONTACT: Retta Goss

Telephone (334) 223-7280

Fax (334) 223-7560

Cell (334) 546-1930

COVINGTON COUNTY MAN ARRAIGNED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA— Mark Frederick Harigan, 41, of Florala, Alabama, was arraigned in federal court following an indictment by the federal grand jury for receiving and possessing child pornography, U. S. Attorney Leura G. Canary announced today.

According to the two-count indictment, Harigan received and distributed child pornography beginning on March 15, 2006, and continuing until April 11, 2007, the day a federal search warrant was executed at his residence.

Harigan pled not guilty to the charges in his initial appearance before United States Magistrate Judge Charles S. Coody. This case is currently scheduled for trial on September 22, 2008. If convicted, Harigan faces a maximum of 30 years in prison, \$500,000 in fines, and supervised release for the rest of his life.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In May 2006, the U.S. Department of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit

www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

The case was investigated by agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, in conjunction with a lead from U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The Covington County Sheriff's Office provided assistance in both the execution of the search warrant and Harigan's subsequent arrest. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nathan D. Stump.